

October 28, 2011 Historical Society *Newsletter*

www.carbondalehistorical.org

Carbondale Historical Society and Museum, Inc.

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October 28, 2011

Dear Members and Friends:

The summer and early fall of 2011 have been a very busy and productive period for the Historical Society.

Accomplishments/Events

--May 12, September 21, October 20: Friends of D&H Caboose meetings. We're making very good progress with this project. There are now 73 "Friends" who have donated \$5,965.00 towards the cost of designing and building the pavilion in which the Caboose will be displayed. Project architect, Tom Horlacher, is now creating what will probably be the final design for the pavilion in which the caboose will be housed. When the Hotel Chellino building is taken down, the D&H Caboose Pavilion will be erected on the Chellino site.

--May 13: John Buberniak and Historical Society president, Dr. S. Robert Powell, presented a talk on the D&H Canal Company's Gravity Railroad at the Dorflinger-Suydam Sanctuary at White Mills, PA.

--June 13: Dr. Powell was the guest speaker at the Marian Community Hospital Auxiliary annual dinner at the Elkview Country Club. He spoke on the D&H Caboose 35964 project.

--Summer 2011: Restoration of Gravity Railroad Monument in Gravity Park continues: Lantern on top of the monument and electrical work (courtesy of George Wallis and the Brennan families); painting of monument (courtesy of John and Joe Brennan families); restoration of brass plaque on monument (courtesy of John and Joe Brennan families); painting of D&H logo on monument (courtesy of Joe Kluck)

--August 20: 12:30 and 3:00 P.M: Trolley Tours of historic downtown Carbondale. Tours conducted by Councilman John Gigliotti, Jim Racht, and S. Robert Powell, in conjunction with Pioneer Nights celebration.

--September 3: At ceremonies conducted at Railfest 2011 at Steamtown National Historic Site, the Historical Society's executive director, Dr. S.

Robert Powell, was presented with the 2011 Alan Sweeney Memorial Award for his outstanding accomplishments on behalf of local history.

--September 14: Lackawanna Heritage Valley Annual Dinner at the Lackawanna County Cultural Center. Due in a large part to initiatives on the part of the Carbondale Historical Society and the Carbondale D&H Transportation Museum, the City of Carbondale is well represented and portrayed in the commemorative 20-year history of LHVA that was given its world premiere at this dinner. Copies of this important documentary history, titled *Legacy*, are available from the LHVA for \$19.95 each (\$14.95 if you're an LHV member). This documentary will be aired on WVIA 1 / 44.1 on November 5, 14, 17; December 26, 29, 31; on WVIA 2 / 44.2 on November 12, 14, 17, and 26.

--September 25: Jim Racht's presentation on the history of Carbondale at Lackawanna County Historical Society. Jim's book, *Carbondale*, in the Images of America series, has been very well received and continues to sell well.

--October 1: 12:00 and 4:00 P.M.: Trolley Tours of historic downtown Carbondale. Tours conducted by Councilman John Gigliotti, Jim Racht, and S. Robert Powell in conjunction with Carbondale's annual Octoberfest celebration

--October 13: visit to Historical Society and D&H Transportation Museum by Cub Scout Pack 98 (New Milford and Harford, PA)

--October 21: visit to Historical Society by Carbondale YMCA Main Street Gallery/After School Mural Group

Donations

In addition, many extraordinary donations have been received by the Society in recent months from the following donors:

Donald Law, Phoenix, AZ: In memory of Archibald Law: mine lamps; genealogical records, Law family paintings, and extensive collection of Law family memorabilia; also *Songs from The Wyoming Valley* by Anna N. A. Law (Summer and Fall 2011, also October 27, 2011)

Mr. and Mrs. Richard H. May, Hockessin, DE: extensive collection of Carbondale photographs and stereograph cards, press clippings, Crane family materials, Carbondale flood photos (August 15, 2011)

Anthony F. Veteran family, Eliza Jane Cottage, Point Road, Lake Winola, PA: 26" x 20" framed print of portrait of William Williams (author of *Awdwr yr hen Emyrn poblogaidd*) and 10 photos of buildings and monuments relating to William Williams. Donation

received on July 16, 2011 via Kitty Jenkins Purosky and Ted Frutchey.

Historical Society Board member, **John V. Buberniak**, now living in Fresno, CA, and working for the Union Pacific Railroad, arrived in Carbondale (May 12) for a 9-day visit. At that time, John, who is a master at sleuthing about the Internet in search of D&H materials, donated to the D&H Transportation Museum here a large quantity of rare and wonderful D&H materials.

Joe Durkin, Wilkes-Barre, PA: 1955 Saint Rose jacket (August 12, 2011)

Mary Grace Moffitt; Charles, Mary, and Maureen Moffitt: In memory of Charles E. Moffitt: Carbondale cook books, 19th century photograph (September 17, 2011)

Ron Konosky: Hudson Coal Company scatter tags; July 1941 *Carbondale Telephone Directory*; *Steamers of the Delaware & Hudson Railroad* by Tony Reznak; 1900 *Memorial Souvenir of St. Rose Church* (Summer and Fall 2011)

Carol and Barry Heron, Kingsley, PA: mining certificates, in memory of Oscar Williams: mining certificates (September 7, 2011)

John Kutchmanich: Pennsylvania Rail Road brass bell; used on one of 6 tug boats to carry coal to Philadelphia (July 1, 2011)

Bifano family, Belmont Street, Carbondale: D&H and Mills Brothers receipt books (September 20, 2011)

Attorney John Krisa: vintage film about the borough of Jermyn (September 14, 2011)

Bill Connor: northeastern Pennsylvania baseball cards: Dick Tracewski, Stan Palys, Paul Foytack, Joe Collins, Joe Grzenda (August 11, 2011)

Garth Dietrick and family: *History of Carbondale* by Glen Dietrick (September 30, 2011)

Sheila Jablonski: 1933 Carbondale High School yearbook; James Brady Purple Heart medal (September 24, 2011)

Eleanor (Winger) Henry: Saint Rose Academy graduation certificate for Annie Regina Quinn, 1904; formal dress belonging to Annie Regina Quinn (November 7, 2011)

Annmarie Margotta: Collection of dresses and ladies' furnishings: in memory of Elsa Metchlot and Anna Maria DiNelli Pinto (October 19, 2011)

Ann Moran Heenan: three Erie Railroad pamphlets and books, in memory of her father, William B. Moran (October 24, 2011)

Ron Gilroy: DVD of Ron Gilroy's D&H and O&W model train set up, Lincoln Avenue, Carbondale (October 28, 2011)

In Addition

In recent months, there has been a steady stream of visitors at the Historical Society—both from the Carbondale Area and from all over America. Just about every day, we have visitors and researchers (genealogy, railroads, mining, cemetery records, local history) who make their way to the third floor of Carbondale City Hall. It's very gratifying to be able to help these visitors, whatever their mission here.

Coming Up

--November 6: Unveiling of (1) painting of the Carbondale Synagogue by Joe Kluck, and (2) Congregation Agudath Saholom Memorial Plaque, Council Chambers, City Hall (invitation included with this newsletter).

--November 20: John Revak will present a slide-illustrated "Ride over the D&H Gravity Railroad" at the Lackawanna County Historical Society

--December 5: Historical Society Annual Christmas Dinner, Pettinato's Restaurant. Following the dinner, Carbondale's *Classic Voices* will present a concert of holiday music.

--December 11: Twenty-eighth Annual Crystal Band Christmas Concert, Berean Baptist Church, Carbondale, hosted by the Historical Society and the Berean Baptist Church. If you've attended this annual concert at least once, you know what a wonderful event it is. If you've

never attended, plan on attending this year. You'll be glad you did.

The thoughtful and generous support of a large group of devoted Historical Society members and friends makes it possible for the Historical Society to continue to work, every day and in every way possible, on behalf of Carbondale's past, present, and future.

Your support, as members and friends, is much appreciated.

Sincerely,

S. Robert Powell
Executive Director

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We make a concerted effort to update and keep current the Historical Society's webpage. Check it out when you have a moment. If you have announcements or items—such as photographs of Carbondale people or places—that you would like us to post on the Society's webpage, make them available to us (e-mail preferred) and we'll post them for all to enjoy.

An Invitation

Society of Peace Artifact returns to Carbondale....

You are cordially invited to attend the presentation of the Society of Peace memorial plaque to the Carbondale Historical Society on November 6, 2011 at 2:00 p.m. in Council Chambers of Carbondale City Hall. The memorial plaque honors the members of Society of Peace who served in the Armed Services.

Rabbi Joseph Mendelsohn of Temple Israel, Scranton, PA will present the plaque to Historical Society Director S. Robert Powell. The Plaque will then permanently hang in the Carbondale Historical Society.

Immediately following the presentation of the Plaque, there will be an unveiling of a picture of Society of Peace/Agudath Sholom which was painted by local Artist Joe Kluck. The painting is being donated to the Historical Society by Alan Saul Kurlansky in memory of his parents Simon and Bernice Kurlansky, and his grandparents Samuel and Anna Kurlansky who were all active members of Society of Peace.

Refreshments will be served immediately following the events.

RSVP by November 1, 2011

Contact Diane Kurlansky 570-282-2238